

Rev. Geo. Tillotson.

Brooklyn Apr 14th 1841.

Brother Phelps,

23

After so long a silence between us, permit me to inquire how you are prospering. Tho' I had the pleasure of seeing your wife a few moments last summer at Farmington, I believe a number of years have elapsed since we last met. I hope you will in answer to these few lines, ere long report yourself. As to myself & old friends I have not much to say at present. I seem to be a sort of fixture in this place; having twice attempted to get away, for what I considered a better field of usefulness; but did not succeed, thro' the reluctance of my people to give me up. I have a pleasant location & a dear & excellent people, among whom I have been much blessed. But like yourself I have been called to pass thro' & give of domestic afflictions. My once happy home has been made a desert. But in my loneliness, I trust God has not forsaken me; & at times he has given me the spirit of "Songs in the night." Three years since, I bought & fitted up a house in this village, & in about a year & a half it became the house of death to that bosom friend who ^{constituted} its principal charm. Since which time, I have been ~~been~~ a solitary boarder in my own habitation; (with the exception of 10 weeks absence at West on a journey last summer.) The late winter & the one previous were seasons of considerable religious interest

& of the dew of divine blessing among my people.
Unitarianism here, as such, is about defunct. For the
last 3 years that Soc^y has been able to have only a
Christian, whom they could get cheap, & it is doubtful
whether they can continue him long. My people
increased my salary 4 years since, & divine Providence
has in various respects prospered the congregation.
Brother Rockwell, ^{of Plainfield, a college clergyman} is to be dismissed soon, chiefly
for lack of support. My classmate, Chas Rockwell
was lately at Plainfield, on his way for N.Y., whither he had
been to see about getting his narrative of travels published. I
am told he has become as fat as a porpoise, down on of
Cape Cod. James Smith is doing finely, I am told at Glastonbury,
~~bury~~; is active as a pastor, & is highly
regarded as a preacher. He is becoming a great man,
is already approaching corpulence. As to Farmington
affairs, you probably have intelligence as often as I do.

Now a word as to business. Can you consistently make
some inquiries for me? I wish to invest 5 or 6 hundred
dollars soon, in some safe state, where I may reasonably
expect good interest. I have thought of buying 5 shares in
the Boston & Worcester Rail Road. It sells about 5 or 6 cents
above par. That road must in future have an immense
travel; & it has struck me, it must be good stock for a
permanent investment. If I do not put it there, I shall prob-
ably put it in bank stock. I believe that rail road stock
has regularly paid 6 per. cent, & I suppose the prospect is,

Stock will be higher in future years. Will you
not make inquiries of some persons of good judgment,
acquainted with the matter, whether it would be a safe &
good investment, for one who does not wish perplexity
with money matters. What are the regular times in the
year for dividends on that stock? I understand new stock
is to be created for laying of a double track. When is
it to be created? When done, will it be put to subscribers
at par, or be sold for all it will fetch over par? Have
any of the avails of the road been applied towards the new track
thus far? "Cook & Sons" of your city have a public sale of stocks
of various kinds every Saturday. There is another sale every
Wednesday by a Mr. Brown, street & number, I cannot
give. If authorized, they would buy any kind of stock, at the
lowest prices. Must the money be on hand at the time of
purchase. In other words, could they not buy a few shares
for me, & give me a week in which to forward the money?
Should I purchase, would you receive & pay over the
money for me; shall you be in the city for 2 or 3 weeks
to come? Make sufficient inquiries, ^{on these points} & then write
me, if you are willing to take the trouble. If you can have
answer prepared by Monday morning, perhaps a friend of mine
will call & take it. If not, send by mail in the course of
a week if convenient.

Yrs fraternally E. J. Tilton.

Mr. Jackson —

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